

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the closure body is made from metal.
3. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 2, wherein the closure body is made from a metal with high thermal conductivity.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the recess of the closure body tapers from its end toward the interior of the closure body.
6. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the recess in the closure body has a concave shape.
7. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the recess in the closure body has a conical shape.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the outer surface of the closure body is provided with a groove adapted to receive a sealing ring.
10. (Cancelled)

11. (currently amended) Ash collector for smokers, comprising a bar-shaped container with an opening on one end that is closed by a removable closure body which is a solid non-insulating structure having no insulating air gaps, comprises a recess on an end facing the interior of the container and consists, in full or predominantly, of a material resistant to destruction from the glowing ash of cigarettes or cigars,

wherein the thermal capacity of the solid closure body is selected to act as a heat sink to conduct and store the heat from the glowing ash to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar, which is pressed against the recess of the plug closure body, will be extinguished without increasing the temperature of its outer surface above 50° Celsius.

12. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein a clip is attached to the closure body.

13. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the container is made from metal.

14. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 13, wherein the container consists of a metal suited for deep-drawing.

15. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 13 wherein the container is made from aluminum or an aluminum alloy.

16. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the container is a molded plastic part.

17. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the container has an outer diameter of 10mm to 15mm.

18. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the container has a length of 10cm to 15cm.

19. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein in addition to a chamber intended to collect ashes it further comprises a second chamber that is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.

20. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, comprising an integrated flashlight.

21. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 19, wherein the second chamber accommodates a flashlight or parts thereof.

22. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 21, wherein the end of the container opposite the closure body is provided with a sleeve which is detachably connected with the container and which accommodates a bulb.

23. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 22, wherein the sleeve further accommodates a reflector and a glass pane closing off the sleeve.

24. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, further comprising an integrated cigarette lighter.

25. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 24, wherein the cigarette lighter is provided in a second chamber, said second chamber is provided in the container and is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.

26. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 23, wherein the cigarette lighter is protected by a removable cap.

27. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 26, wherein the cap is pivotably mounted on the container.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 3, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper and brass.

30. (Currently Amended) The ash collector as defined in claim 11, wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar which is pressed into the recess will be extinguished within a few seconds.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 17 wherein the container has an outer diameter of about 12mm.